

BARNEYS CANYON MINE
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David I. Hodson
General Manager

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OIL GAS & MINING

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MINERALS PROGRAM
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Kennecott

November 10, 1992

Mr. Don Ostler
Executive Secretary
Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

RE: Stockpiled Sulfide Ore: Ground Water Permit No. UGW 350001

Dear Mr. Ostler:

Thank you for your letter of October 30, agreeing to our proposal regarding the handling of stockpiled sulfide ore at the Barneys Canyon Mine.

Barneys Canyon Mine will:

1. Compact and shape the stockpiles to promote runoff.
2. Allow a crust to develop on the stockpile which will not be disturbed by future additions to the pile.
3. Apply a durable sealant to the piles to further promote runoff and crust formation. We have identified a sealing agent which should be suitable and will forward details of the agent to you when we have confirmed its suitability with the manufacturer.
4. Submit plans to DWQ by end June 1993 for construction of a plant to process the sulfide material or alternatively a plan for disposal of the material.

As regards your request for data that will allow you to assess and review the sulfide content within the mine and dumps we will submit all appropriate data with the January 1993 monitoring report.

As previously notified in my letter of September 2, 1992 the issue of sulfide material was covered in some detail in the original NOI submitted to DOGM in September 1989 and again in the revised NOI dated October 1992. It was our understanding at the time, that DOGM had jurisdiction over the disposal of mine waste and hence we did not re-address the issue with DWQ.

Page 2
November 10, 1992

Barneys Canyon Mine has at all times disclosed all relevant data to DOGM (and hence placed the data in the public domain) and will continue to do so. We refer you to the Notices of Intent to Mine which include estimates of sulfide material tonnages as well as results of EPA approved tests which assess the acid generating and neutralizing potential of the various rock types at Barneys Canyon. As a result of these analyses Barneys Canyon received approval from DOGM to dispose of the sulfide material in the waste rock dumps and it is our view that such disposal presents no risk to the quality of ground water resource in the area.

We will continue to work with DWQ in reviewing the available data and confirm our intent to protect the ground water resource at all times.

Yours sincerely,



D. I. Hodson
General Manager

cc: T. B. Braun
D. L. Skolasinski
S. P. C. Stewart
D. Tunderman
W. Hedberg (DOGM)